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OGC HAS REVIEWED.

December 9, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO THE DIRECTOR:

Subject: Testimony before Congressional Committees

1. Attention is drawn to the fact that the Republican members of the Special Senate Committee Investigating the National Defense Program (Brewster of Maine, Ball of Minnesota, Ferguson of Michigan, Knowland of California) have directed Mr. George Meader, Committee Counsel, to release to the press copies of his confidential report on a preliminary investigation of military government in Europe, together with transcripts of four executive hearings on the same subject.
2. These Senators took this action on the basis that certain portions of these documents had already appeared in the press, giving distorted and inaccurate impressions. The Senators felt that the only way to correct these impressions was to release the full texts.
3. In the release it is frankly stated that the Meader report "was drafted as a confidential report and contains information which was intended for the members of the Committee only and not for publication."
4. The Committee Counsel states that much of the information on which this report was based was obtained in confidence, for release only when cleared by the appropriate agency. It is believed that the War Department objected to its release.
5. A portion of the Meader report concerns intelligence in Europe. These sections will be forwarded to you under separate memorandum.
6. This memorandum is written to call your attention to the fact that confidential reports and the substance of Executive Hearings are leaking from the Committee or its staff. Further, that the text of Executive Hearings, even where the subject is intelligence, are subsequently being released to the press.
7. It is recommended that this be called to the attention of the Director for his continued guidance in testifying before Congressional Committees.

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WALTER L. PFORZHEIMER
Chief, Legislative Liaison Branch

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